



Beginning Australian Research

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Genealogical Research in Australia is a very good and pleasant surprise for searching records. Knowing the locality where your family resided and what records exist for that specific area are key to adding family links. The vital records for Australia pre-1920 are usually indexed online and you may be able to locate the vital information with purchasing a certificate or maybe just from an online index for free. This handout is to help provide what record sources exist and the genealogical information these records provide. Research will be successful if the records can be obtained, understood, and linked to other records. The following is a listing of websites online to find records and records indexes.

States, Territories – Records

Australian Capital Territory
New South Wales
Northern Territory
Overseas
Queensland
South Australia
Tasmania
Victoria
Western Australia

Beginning Research Strategies

Know what records exist.
What is the time, content, and availability?
What record will give answers and clues to your family?
Are the records indexed and online or in a repository or in someone's personal possession?
What do you do with the information gathered?
How is the genealogical information analyzed?

Records = Time, Content, Availability

Australasian Genealogical Computer Index CD Purchase online
Biographical Database of Australia <http://www.bda-online.org.au/>
Record Finder wiki.FamilySearch.org Australia
Australia Record Selection Table
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Australia_Record_Selection_Table

Genealogical Records

Business	Naturalization and Citizenship
Cemeteries	Newspapers
Census	Obituaries
Church	Online Records
Civil Registration	Orphans and Orphanages
Convict	Periodicals
Court	Probate Records
Directories	Public Records
Emigration/Immigration	School Records
Heraldry	Taxation
Land and Property	Voting Registers
Medical	Websites
Military	

Websites- Indexed Information

FamilySearch FamilySearch.org Australia Historical Records and Catalog
National Library of Australia <http://www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources/browse/123> TROVE
Local State Registration BMD See each state for online indexes and Genealogical information
Ancestry www.ancestry.com Indexes to many Historical Records
findmypast www.findmypast.co.uk Indexes to many Historical Records

Some Genealogical Records Information

Census: Mostly destroyed See 1891 census for New South Wales
Civil Registration: Best source of information for births, marriages, and deaths.

Tasmania 1 December 1838
Western Australia 9 September 1841
South Australia 1 July 1842
Victoria 1 July 1853
New South Wales 1 March 1856
Queensland 1 March 1856
Northern Territory 24 August 1870
Australian Capital Territory 1 January 1930

Birth Records May Provide:

- Surname and forenames of child
- Date and place of birth of child
- Gender of the child
- Multiple births
- Surname and forenames of father
- Age, birthplace, and occupation or rank of father
- Maiden surname and forenames of mother
- Place and year of marriage of parents
- Age and birthplace of mother

Birth Records May Provide continued:

- Number and gender of previous issue, if deceased
- Name, relationship, description, and residence of informant

Marriage Records May Provide:

- Surname and forenames of parties
- Occupations and places of residence of parties
- Ages and places of birth of parties
- Marital status prior to the marriage
- Date and place of marriage
- Name of celebrant and denomination
- Names of witnesses
- Surnames and forenames of parents

Death Records may provide:

- Surname and forenames of deceased
- Occupations
- Ages and places of death
- Place of birth
- Place and date of Marriage
- Date and place of death
- Length of residence in Australia and in what colonies, states, and territories.
- Name of Spouse
- Names of Children who are living
- Number of Children deceased and Gender
- Name and occupation of Father
- Maiden Surname of Mother
- Cause of death and duration of last illness
- Name of Medical Practitioner
- Date and place of burial
- Religion and name of minister or witness
- Names of Undertaker and informant
- Maiden Surname of Mother
- Residence and relationship or description of informant
- Date and place of Civil Registration

Further Learning

[Wiki.FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org): Look under Australia

[FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) Look under Learning Center or Get help Learning Center then Australia